and a few miles short of the coast of Mumbai abandoned the fishing vessel, got into an inflatable rubber dinghy, and landed near Budhwar Park, Colaba, Mumbai between 8.00 p.m. and 8.30 p.m. on November 26, 2008.

(c) and (d) In the context of the terrorist attacks in Mumbai, Intelligence regarding the possibility of infiltration by a suspected LeT vessel through the sea route had been shared with the Coast Guard and the Navy. The coordinates of the vessel placed it well within the territorial waters of Pakistan. Efforts were nevertheless made by both of these organisations, including deploying vessels and aircraft in the zone, but in the absence of any further specific inputs or information, no further action could be taken on the basis of available information. Steps are being taken on a continuing basis to review and strengthen/streamline the arrangements and modalities for sharing of intelligence with, and operational coordination among various agencies and with the States. The matter has been further reviewed in the light of the recent terrorist attacks in Mumbai and steps are being taken to make the mechanisms for gathering and sharing of intelligence more effective and result oriented.

Informations on communal elements from States

†1782. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government recently urged State Governments to provide information on communal elements;

(b) if so, the time when this request was made and the reasons for request thistime round;

(c) whether information thereto has been received from State Governments; and

(d) if so, the names of the States and time and type of information furnished by them respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The request was made in November, 2008, as in the preceding few months, widespread communal tension and incidents of communal violence of varying intensities had been witnessed in different parts of the country.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Pension to freedom fighters from Telangana region

†1783. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the number of freedom fighters from Telangana region of Andhra Pradesh who had applied for pension to his ministry till December, 2007 and the number of applications rejected therefrom with reasons therefor;

(b) the number of applications, which were rejected merely on the ground that they were sent/received in the department late;

(c) the number of cases wherein Telangana Freedom Fighters Association has recommended Freedom Fighters pension, allowing for delay; and

(d) by when the pension to these real freedom fighters will be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Approximately 54,989 applications for grant of Samman pension were received from the people of Andhra Pradesh, including those from Telangana region, till 31.12.2007. Out of this, pension was sanctioned in 14,573 cases and claims in the remaining cases were rejected, *inter alia*, on the ground of non-fulfilment of the eligibility conditions and evidentiary requirements prescribed under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980. In addition, approximately 14,868 cases (which include about 3400 sanctioned cases) relating to Hyderabad Liberation Movement, including cases recommended by the Hyderabad Special Screening Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri C.H. Rajeshwara Rao, are under reverification by Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra.

(b) The time limit prescribed for submission of applications for grant of pension was removed in compliance with the judgment dated 14.5.1993 passed by the Supreme Court of India in the case of Mukund Lal Bhandari and Others *vs* Union of India and Others and no claim for grant of pension has been rejected thereafter on the ground of being time-barred.

(c) As per the provisions of the Scheme, applications for grant of pension are required to be submitted though the respective State Governments. Therefore, no data of applications recommended by various associations, including the Telagana Freedom Fighters Association, has been maintained.

(d) Finalization of cases relating to Hyderabad Liberation Movement, which are under re-verification, depends on receipt of re-verification reports from the State Governments and recommendation of the Screening Committee of Eminent Freedom Fighters constituted for this purpose.

Red Corridor of Maoists from Andhra Pradesh to Nepal

†1784. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Maoists have built a "Red Corridor" from Andhra Pradesh to Nepal;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.